

Student discipline – here's what you need to know!

One area in which we receive lots of questions is the area involving student discipline. We thought we'd put together this list of items for you so that you'll know what the law and our contract say about disciplining students:

- **You have the right to exclude disruptive students from your classroom for the remainder of the day and up to the following two days for EACH disruptive event.** The purpose of this law is for you to have a tool to protect the learning environment for the other students in your class. Under the law, you must have tried other interventions first (except for emergency situations), but those interventions could have occurred on prior days. The student cannot be returned to your class without your permission, or until you and your administrator have met to discuss how to deal with the behavior.

When you use this tool, be sure to inform your principal that you are exercising the "two-day exclusion law" so that it's clearly understood what you're doing. There is no limit as to the number of times you use this exclusion, except for students on a behavior IEP. If the student has an IEP for behavior (not just an academic IEP), then you're limited to excluding him/her for up to 10 days per year. Important note: Under **NO** circumstances can any disruptive student be returned to your room prior to the end of the class period, unless you have given your permission. (RCW 28A.600.020 and LWEA Contract Section 18.4)

- **You must be notified of students who have exhibited, or have a history of, violent or threatening behavior.** These students must be identified to the student's assigned staff and to other staff members who have a need to know (such as librarians, counselors, or specialists who have contact with the student) as soon as the information about the student is known. (LWEA Contract Section 18.7)
- **State law requires the school to inform teachers of any incoming transfer student's history** of disciplinary actions, criminal or violent behavior, or other behavior that indicates the student could be a threat to the safety of educational staff or other students. (RCW 28A.225.330)
- **Principals must communicate the disciplinary action** taken by the principal to the school personnel who referred the student to the principal for disciplinary action. (RCW 28A.600.020)
- **A student committing an offense such as an assault, malicious harassment, malicious mischief, or other crimes against a teacher shall not be assigned to that teacher's classroom** for the duration of the student's attendance at that school or any other school where the teacher is assigned. (RCW 28A.600.460)
- **You have the right to report a student to the police** if that student has threatened or assaulted you. Just because you are a teacher, you do not give up your rights under the law as a citizen.
- **You have the right to obtain an anti-harassment protection order against a student (or a student's parent)** if those individuals engage in behaviors that are abusive; threatening; seriously alarm, annoy, or harass; or would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress. (RCW 10.14.020)

"If you need assistance in exercising your rights under our contract and/or the law, be sure to contact the LWEA office (425-822-3388) or Kevin Teeley via district e-mail."

Kevin Teeley,
President

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Is your certificate expiring?

Did you know that maintaining your certification is your responsibility? That also means that you are responsible for the renewal of your teaching certificate.

OSPI has set up a new online procedure where educators can manage their certifications and endorsements. The OSPI e-Certification service enables educators to:

- Apply for credentials online
- Monitor application status
- Receive expiration and renewal reminders
- Print certificates
- Update contact information

OSPI provides online training and information about the e-Certification service. Educators can access these at this [link](#). Anyone renewing their certificates are to maintain required certification/endorsements completely online.

Certificated staff with an expiration date of June 30, 2016 on their certificate must start the renewal process ASAP to guarantee maintenance of a valid certification before the certificate expires. Do not wait until the last minute as you might not be able to complete the requirements prior to the expiration date. **YOU MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE CLASSROOM WITHOUT PAY IF YOUR CERTIFICATE EXPIRES.**

Note: National Board Certified teachers (NBCT) are still required to renew their certificates prior to the expiration date. Being a NBCT does not change your responsibility for renewing your certification.

A celebration of life

It is with sadness that we share the passing of Howard Carlson, long-time LWSD school administrator and Assistant Superintendent. A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, February 18, at 2 PM, in the Happy Valley Grange Hall (19720 NE 50th, Redmond, WA 98053).



Have you checked your certificate?

To assist you in maintaining the validity of your certificate, you can review the status of your certification by visiting the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) [e-certification website](#).

LWEA Office

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Blackwell / 425-936-2520

LWEA Office:

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Don't miss this deduction on your taxes

If you were an eligible educator in 2016, you can deduct up to \$250 of your qualified expenses (this is in addition to your association dues). If you and your spouse are filing jointly and both of you are eligible educators, the maximum deduction is \$500. This deduction is recorded on line 23 of the 1040 form.

An eligible educator is a K-12 teacher, instructor, counselor, principal, or aide who worked in a school for at least 900 hours during a school year.

For more information about the educator's deduction, go to page 31 of the 1040 Instructions – look for Line 23 Educator Expenses.

Need a tutor list?

LWEA offers a list of tutors as a service to the community. If you know of a family looking for a tutor or if you would like to be included in the LWEA Tutor List, please contact [Sheila Hagerman](#) in the LWEA office.

Retirement planning at any age

NEA Member Benefits has put together retirement information that will work for all educators – no matter if you are early in your career or ready to make the move to retirement this year.

Use this [link](#) to access the NEA Member Benefits Retirement Planning Center.

Resources for Black History Month

To help you integrate Black History Month into your classroom, NEA offers a selection of lesson plans that cover a variety of subjects and that can be adapted to fit multiple grade levels. Use this [link](#).

What bargaining can do...

THEN: Administrators could call mandatory staff meetings as often as they deemed necessary.

NOW: Except for emergencies or exceptional circumstances, no more than an average of two hours per month will be scheduled for required staff meetings.

Ballots: Don't forget—the deadline for voting is 5 PM on Friday, February 3!

FOR SALE

AKC registered Shih Tzu puppies: This bred doesn't shed & are hypo-allergenic. Raised with tender loving care. Great w/ little kids. Partially house broken to potty pads. Includes 1st shots & worming, doggy bed, toy, small bag of food, + a rawhide chew. \$800.00 for females / \$750.00 for males. Carol Yonker (Retired) 206 466 9275.

Scan Design **bedroom set** (king), 5 piece, teak. Headboard - 79"X x 44"H x 3"D. High chest - 46.75"W x 50"H x 18"D. Low dresser—69"W x 29"H x 18"D. Nightstands (2) w/ drawers & shelves, 24"W x 23.5"H x 15.5"D. You pick up. \$200 OBO—cash only. Will negotiate. Contact Gary at 425-433-6490 or ma-song987@gmail.com. (Karen Ripley, RC).

SERVICES

Questions about your retirement, social security benefits, or state retirement plan? Utilize a knowledgeable & experienced financial professional to help you better understand your pensions, 403(b)s, 401(k)s, & IRA's. Contact Sean Tennis, Senior Associate with Foresters Financial, 206-204-3066, ext 403, or sean.tennis@foresters.com. (Brigitte Tennis, Stella Schola).

Tax Preparation Services: Almost 40 yrs of experience preparing taxes by retired LWEA member specializing in small business & educators. References upon request. Discounts to LWEA members. Call Hargraves Tax Service at 425-836-2625 or sandyhargraves@hotmail.com.

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Retirement in your future?

If you see retirement in your near future, there are a few things you might want to plan to do before you reach that last day. Here are a couple of resources that will make this change easier and less stressful:

- ✓ Make an appointment with the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS) to go over your service credit and years of experience. It is a good idea to check the accuracy of your records now rather than deal with problems later. You can make an appointment by calling the DRS at 800-547-6657, by e-mail at recep@drs.wa.gov, or on the [website](#).
- ✓ Attend one of the District's informational meetings. Payroll staff will be going over topics such as sick leave cash out, VEBA, COBRA, medical and optional benefits, etc. Meetings are being held at 4:00 PM at the Resource Center on these days:

February 15 in Sammamish A/B
March 8 in Sammamish A/B
May 10 in Sammamish A/B
June 14 in Sammamish A/B

To register, e-mail [Carmen Simpson](#) in Payroll. Note – there are limits on the number of participants per session.

Marketplace

Ads are run in the Update on a first come, first served basis. All ads need to be in written form. Send directly to Sheila Hagerman at shhagerman@lwsd.org.

Ads are subject to approval of the LWEA Executive Committee and may be edited for length.

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LWEA Website

Lakewashingtonea.org

[Facebook](#)

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Calendar

Feb. 3

Sec grades due
Ballot deadline—5 PM

Feb. 7-8

Behavior Support for
Challenging Students
4:40 –7 PM

Feb. 9

Newbie Nights (4:30—7 PM)
Positive Classroom

Feb.14

Executive Committee

Feb. 16-17

Mid-winter break

Feb. 21

Rep Assembly